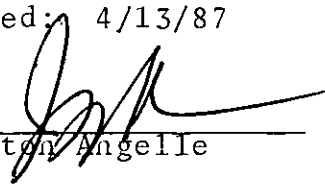


LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

BOARD MEETING

Approved: 4/13/87

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Burton Angelle

April 3, 1987

DALE VINET  
Chairman

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

## AGENDA

### LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA April 3, 1987

|   | Page |
|---|------|
| 1. Roll Call  | 1    |
| 2. Approval of Minutes of March 6, 1987   | 1    |
| 3. Signing of Lease Agreement & Presentation of Plaque<br>of Appreciation - Boise Cascade Corporation | 1    |
| 4. Survey Report  | 1    |
| 5. Finfish Report   | 1    |
| 6. Notice of Intent - Change of Pompano Net Length  | 1    |
| 7. Toledo Bend Scuba Gamefish Season Report   | 2    |
| 8. Enforcement Report   | 2    |
| 9. Set Hunting Seasons for 1987-88  | 2    |
| 10. Goose Creeping Resolution   | 3    |
| 11. Set July Meeting Date   | 3    |

MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

April 3, 1987

Chairman Dale Vinet presiding:

Jack Cappel  
Lyle Crain  
Joe Palmisano  
Warren Pol  
Mark Roberts

Mr. J. Burton Angelle was also present.

The minutes of the meeting of March 6, 1987 were approved with a motion from Mr. Pol and seconded by Dr. Cappel.

At Thursday's meeting a lease agreement was signed and a plaque was awarded to Mr. John Gerber, General Manager and Mr. Ward Crowe, Land Manager, of Boise Cascade. This presentation was made by Joe L. Herring. Pictures were also taken.

Corky Perret gave the Survey Report for the period of March 1-29, 1987 at Thursday's meeting. During this period 80 surveys were scheduled, 29 surveys were unable to be done due to bad weather or fishermen unable to meet surveyor. Lease rental collected was \$6,329.77, survey fees collected were \$690.00, seven applications were filed and five new leases were issued.

Gerald Adkins gave a slide presentation on the finfish program. This was a very detailed and informative presentation. At Friday's meeting Dr. Cappel made mention of this report and the information will be disseminated among the members of the Commission. The information will be used to formulate some response to the problem of the speckled trout and redbfish in the state of Louisiana. Dr. Cappel stated that he feels it is the responsibility of the Commission to take the lead in recommending to the Legislature whatever changes are deemed necessary. This will be forthcoming at a later date.

Gerald also presented a Notice of Intent to change pompano net length.

(The full text of the notice of  
intent is made a part of the record)

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to change the existing regulations governing issuance of permits for the purpose of fishing pompano in Louisiana coastal waters. Specifically, the maximum length of net permissible will be changed from 1200 to 2400 feet. Authority for this change is included in RS 56:406.

Interested parties may submit written comments or comment on this proposed change until 4:30 PM, June 5, 1987 in person or writing to: Mr. J. Burton Angelle, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P. O. Bx 15570, Baton Rouge, LA 70895.

Kenneth Lantz presented a report on the Toledo Bend Scuba Gamefish Season at Thursday's meeting.

Winton Vidrine gave the Enforcement Report for the month of March at Thursday's meeting.

Hugh Bateman presented a resolution to set the hunting seasons for 1987-88. This was approved with a motion from Mr. Palmisano which was seconded by Mr. Roberts.

(The full text of the resolution  
is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in consultation with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to establish annual hunting season dates, bag limits and methods of hunting for resident game, and

WHEREAS, this action provides for the protection and conservation of these important natural resources and allows for recreational opportunities including sport hunting, and

WHEREAS, the Commission and Department have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information including requests from sportsmen of the state, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules, regulations, season dates and bag limits affecting sport hunting of resident game in Louisiana for 1987-88 are adopted unanimously by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Dr. Cappel made a motion to include the resolution on goose creeping under other business, seconded by Mr. Palmisano and passed unanimously.

Mark Roberts read the resolution which was approved unanimously with a motion from Dr. Cappel and seconded from Mr. Crain.

WHEREAS, this commission adopted a regulation prohibiting the creeping of geese which regulation was subsequently rejected by the House Oversight Committee, and

WHEREAS, this Commission has subsequently received an opinion from the Attorney General that this Commission does, in fact, have the authority for the adoption of such rule prohibiting the creeping of geese, and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to include a goose creeping prohibition in the 1987-88 waterfowl hunting season regulations, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department in conjunction with his staff is hereby directed to draft a proposed goose creeping regulation to be included in the 1987-88 waterfowl season regulations.

Dr. Cappel also mentioned at Friday's meeting that in the last issue of the Louisiana Conservationist, page 28 there is a brief report of a senior biologist of the Fur and Refuge Division, Ted Joanen for receiving the C. W. Watson Award which is an achievement award and that a letter from the Commission should be sent to Ted signed by the Chairman recognizing this award.

Mr. Joe L. Herring was asked to explain this award. He stated that it is the most prestigious award given at the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' meeting each year. This award is given to an outstanding individual from the states that make up the Southeastern Association.

The July meeting was set for Wednesday and Thursday, July 1-2, 1987 at the Quail Drive office in Baton Rouge.

The meeting was adjourned.

RESOLUTION

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS PRESENTED TO THE LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
COMMISSION AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD IN BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA APRIL 3, 1987

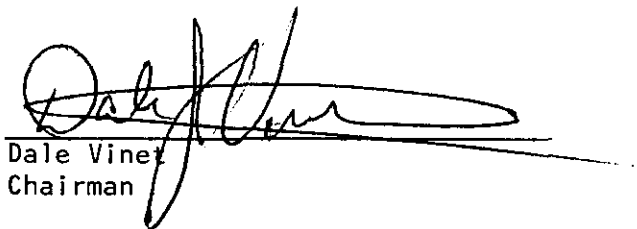
WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in consultation with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to establish annual hunting season dates, bag limits and methods of hunting for resident game, and

WHEREAS, this action provides for the protection and conservation of these important natural resources and allows for recreational opportunities including sport hunting, and

WHEREAS, the Commission and Department have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information including requests from sportsmen of the state, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules, regulations, season dates and bag limits affecting sport hunting of resident game in Louisiana for 1987-88 are adopted unanimously by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

  
J. Burton Angelle  
Secretary

  
Dale Vinet  
Chairman

## NOTICE OF INTENT

### Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act (R.S. 49:950 et. seq.) the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has developed proposed open seasons, rules and regulations for hunting resident game quadrupeds and birds during the period October 1, 1987 to April 30, 1988. This action is exempt from legislative oversight and was taken at a public hearing on April 3, 1987 at 2001 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (copy of resolution signed by Secretary J. Burton Angelle attached). Authority to establish these rules is vested in the Commission by Section 115 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950. The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has the authority to close seasons or alter any rule or regulation in emergency situations to protect the wildlife resources of the state.

In general these proposals include dates for open hunting seasons and bag limits for all resident game quadrupeds and birds provided for by law. Also proposed are regulations establishing legal methods of taking as well as special open hunting seasons for Department controlled wildlife management areas. A summary of the 1987-88 hunting seasons and bag limits for resident game species is attached. (A more detailed copy of the proposed rules and regulations are available upon request at the address listed below.

Interested parties may submit their views in writing to Hugh A. Bateman, Chief, Game Division, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P. O. Box 15570, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70895.

QUAIL: Nov. 26 - Feb. 28. Daily bag limit 10, possession 20.

RABBIT: Oct. 3 - Feb. 28. Daily bag limit 8, possession 16.

SQUIRREL: Oct. 3 - Jan. 17. Daily bag limit 8, possession 16.

BEAR: Nov. 7 - 15. One per season. (Restricted to small area of Atchafalaya Basin. CLOSED ON SHERBURNE WMA.)

DEER: One per day, 6 per season.

AREA 1, 53 DAYS

9 days still hunting only: Nov. 21 - 29.

44 days with or without dogs: Dec. 5 - Jan. 17.

AREA 2, 48 DAYS

23 days still hunting only: Nov. 7 - 29.

9 days with or without dogs: Dec. 5 - 13.

16 days with or without dogs: Dec. 19 - Jan. 3.

AREA 3, 48 DAYS

23 days still hunting only: Nov. 7 - 29.

9 days with or without dogs: Dec. 5 - 13.

16 days with or without dogs: Dec. 19 - Jan. 3.

AREA 4, 48 DAYS

23 days still hunting only: Nov. 7 - 29.

9 days still hunting only: Dec. 5 - 13.

16 days still hunting only: Dec. 19 - Jan. 3.

AREA 5, 41 DAYS

9 days still hunting only: Nov. 21 - 29.

9 days still hunting only: Dec. 5 - 13.

23 days still hunting only: Dec. 19 - Jan. 10.

ARCHERY SEASON: October 1 - Jan. 20.

TURKEY: One per day, 3 per season.

AREA A, 30 days: March 26 - April 24.

AREA B, 30 days: March 26 - April 24.

AREA C, 37 days: March 19 - April 24.

AREA D, 37 days: March 12 - April 17.

AREA E, 29 days: April 2 - 30.

A AREA F, 37 days: March 12 - April 17.

AREA G, 30 days: March 26 - April 24.

AREA H, 30 days: March 26 - April 24.

AREA I, 8 days: April 23 - April 30.

Wildlife Management Area Changes:

1. Vehicles - Tractor or implement tires with farm tread designs R1, R2, and R4, known commonly as spade or lug grip types are prohibited on all vehicles.
2. Raccoon Hunting - Raccoon bag limit - one per person per night for raccoon hunters during "take season" with dogs on WMA's EXCEPT no limit on Ouachita (Experimental).
3. Spotlighting for Wildlife - Spotlighting (shining) from vehicles is prohibited on all WMA's.

BOISE CASCADE

Represented by:

John Gerber, General Manager, Boise Cascade  
Ward Crowe, Land Manager, Boise Cascade

Boise Cascade is renewing the FREE LEASES that provide for public use of their land. They are the majority landowner in THREE WMA's totalling 124,000 acres.

WEST BAY: 55,000 acres

Louisiana's first WMA leased from the private sector:

Established in 1948

Located in ALLEN PARISH near ELIZABETH, LOUISIANA.

OFFERS:

Squirrel, rabbit, deer, turkey, quail, and woodcock hunting.

BOISE VERNON: 54,000 acres

Established in 1960

Boise Cascade continued to provide free public recreation by renewing the lease originally signed by Kirby Lumber Co.

Located in VERNON PARISH 20 miles west of LEESVILLE.

OFFERS:

Good: Squirrel and deer hunting.

Excellent: Dove, quail, and turkey hunting.

SABINE: 15,000 acres.

Established in 1954

Located in SABINE PARISH 10 miles west of Many.

OFFERS:

Deer, squirrel, quail, rabbit, and dove hunting.

## WEST BAY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

West Bay Wildlife Management Area was one of the first wildlife management areas within the state. The original agreement was signed in the late 1940's for approximately 18,000 acres of land in Allen Parish.

Since that first agreement was signed, more property was acquired from other landowners. The largest portion of the area, 32,195 acres of the total 55,185 acres comprising the West Bay Wildlife Management Area, is leased free of charge by our Department from the Boise-Cascade Company. This property was first leased in the 1960's from L.A. Bakey Corporation and even though the company has changed names over the years, we have maintained the lease agreement with Boise-Cascade Company to the present time. This makes West Bay the oldest wildlife management area in the state.

Through the generosity of landowners like Boise-Cascade, West Bay has been and will continue to be an important and vital wildlife management area particularly to the sportsmen of Southwest Louisiana.

## BOISE VERNON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

The Boise Vernon Wildlife Management Area, owned by Boise-Cascade Company, is located in Southwestern Vernon Parish, approximately 20 miles west of Leesville. This area, previously named the Lutch Moore Wildlife Management Area, consists of approximately 54,000 acres and became a state wildlife management area in 1960. The Lutch Moore Lumber Company, Kirby Lumber Company and the Southwestern Improvement Company were the original landowners which gave a free use lease to the State of Louisiana, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. Boise-Cascade continues in this agreement with the state by providing a free lease for a state WMA within District III.

The Boise Vernon WMA provides the sportsmen with good squirrel and deer hunting and excellent dove, quail and turkey hunting. Approximately 40 acres are planted annually in wildlife food plots such as brown top millet and winter wheat and there is a large camping area available for the sportsmen utilizing this WMA on Hwy. 464 near the northern boundary.

## SABINE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

The Sabine Wildlife Management Area, owned by Boise-Cascade Company, International Paper Company and Continental Can Company, is located in Central Sabine Parish, 10 miles west of Many. This WMA contains approximately 15,000 acres and became a wildlife management area in 1954. Boise-Cascade Company continues in this agreement with the State of Louisiana, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, with a free lease agreement for a WMA. The Sabine WMA provides good squirrel and deer hunting with excellent quail, rabbit and dove hunting. There are two camping areas within the area and food plot strips of brown top millet and winter wheat are planted annually on this WMA.



J. BURTON ANGELLE, SR.  
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
DISTRICT VIII  
400 ROYAL ST.  
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130  
March 30, 1987

EDWIN W. EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR

COASTAL & MARINE RESOURCES

SURVEY SECTION  
03 - 43  
ACTIVITY REPORT

MARCH 1, 1987 thru MARCH 29, 1987

During this period field activity consisted of:

- 80 - Surveys that were scheduled.
- 29 - Surveys that were unable to be done due to bad weather or fishermen unable to meet surveyor.

Surveys that were completed consisted of:

- 12 - Leases that were tied into the monument control system.
- 7 - Applications for new area.
- 15 - 15 year limitations.
- 17 - Restake applications.

Total field activity:

| <u>1985</u> | <u>1986</u> | <u>1987</u> |  |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| 379         | 316         | 318         | - Surveys scheduled.   |
| 180         | 165         | 160         | - Surveys performed.   |
| 190         | 146         | 158         | - Surveys unable to be done due to bad weather or fishermen unable to meet surveyor. |
| 1           | 0           | 0           | - Survey where fishermen refused to survey.  |
| 0           | 0           | 0           | - Disputes settled.  |
| 8           | 4           | 0           | - No shows.  |
| 0           | 1           | 0           | - Applications cancelled by request.   |

Office activity during this period:

|            |                           |
|------------|---------------------------|
| \$6,329.77 | - Lease rental collected. |
| \$ 690.00  | - Survey fees collected.  |
| 7          | - Applications filed.     |
| 5          | - New leases issued.      |



ERNEST F. HOLLINGS, SOUTH CAROLINA, CHAIRMAN

DANIEL K. INOUE, HAWAII  
WENDELL H. FORD, KENTUCKY  
DONALD W. RIEGLE, JR., MICHIGAN  
J. JAMES EXON, NEBRASKA  
ALBERT GORE, JR., TENNESSEE  
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV, WEST VIRGINIA  
LLOYD BENTSEN, TEXAS  
JOHN F. KERRY, MASSACHUSETTS  
JOHN B. BREAUX, LOUISIANA  
BROCK ADAMS, WASHINGTON

JOHN C. DANFORTH, MISSOURI  
BOB PACKWOOD, OREGON  
NANCY Landon KASSEBAUM, KANSAS  
LARRY PRESSLER, SOUTH DAKOTA  
TED STEVENS, ALASKA  
BOB KASTEN, WISCONSIN  
PAUL S. TRIBLE, JR., VIRGINIA  
PETE WILSON, CALIFORNIA  
JOHN MCCAIN, ARIZONA

RALPH B. EVERETT, CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR  
W. ALLEN MOORE, MINORITY CHIEF OF STAFF

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,  
AND TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6125

March 17, 1987

Mr. Dale Vinet, Chairman  
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries  
Commission  
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
State of Louisiana  
Post Office Box 15570  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70895



Dear Mr. Vinet:

Thank you for contacting me to request that I support the proclamation of the week of June 1-7, 1987 as National Fishing Week.

I am pleased to report that I am a co-sponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 18 which authorizes and requests the President to issue this proclamation.

Please keep in touch on matters of interest, and don't hesitate to let me know if I can be of help in any way

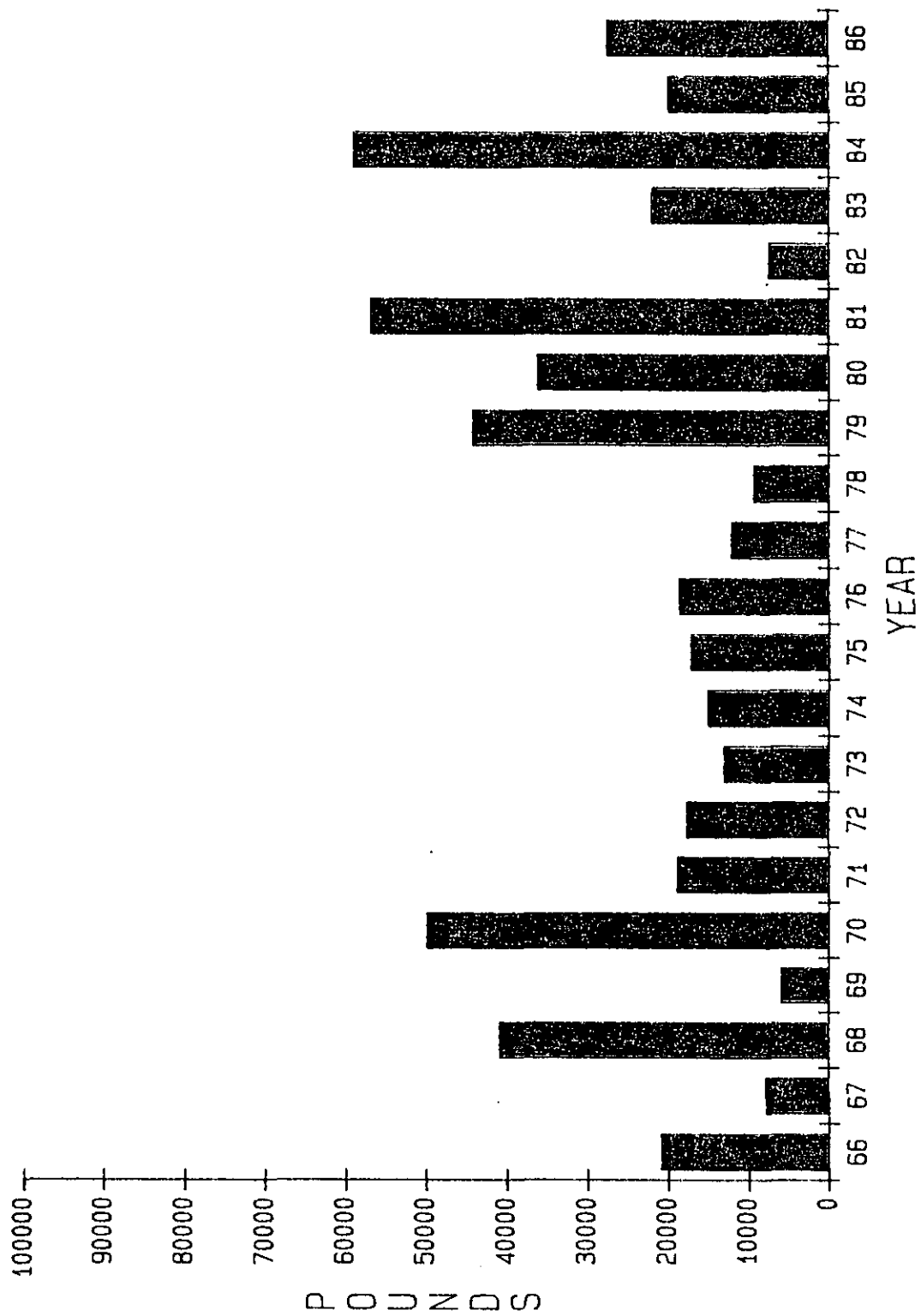
Sincerely,



JOHN BREAUX  
United States Senator

JB:cc

# LOUISIANA COMMERCIAL LANDINGS - POMPANO



LLOYD F. ABADIE

P. O. Box 1218, Crowley, La. 70526 - (318) 783-8074

March 14, 1987

Mr. J. Burton Angelle  
Secretary  
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Dear Burt,

Will you please put the subject of the goose creeping ban on the agenda for the next WLFC meeting and advise me of the date and place where the meeting will be held.

Here in the section of the state where goose creeping is most prevalent quite a number of sportsmen are of the opinion that the commission should pass an identical resolution that was adopted last summer and send it through the administrative procedures system as was suggested by the Attorney General's office.

Some of us have worked long and hard to obtain the authority for the Commission and DWF biologists to manage our wildlife resources. Biologists are qualified and have wanted this authority. To let the legislature do something that the Commission has the authority to do is an admission that the DWF wants the legislature to manage wildlife.

Should the legislature feel that it wants to pass a law relative to goose creeping that is their prerogative. In that event amendments similar to the Maryland and Delaware laws making it illegal to shoot a goose on the ground may be beneficial.

May I please hear from you regarding this matter.

Best regards,

Lloyd F. Abadie

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Outdoor Writing and Photography

Outdoor Writers Association of America / Southeastern Outdoor Press Association  
Louisiana Outdoor Writers Association

# An idea whose time has come

Conservationists are generally in agreement. The wholesale poaching that goes on in Louisiana cannot be controlled by our Enforcement Division especially during these times of 40-hour work weeks and an austerly budget.

Lovers of the outdoors are equally convinced that jail terms are not the answer — our jails are overcrowded now and criminals are being released because there is no place to keep them. Besides every additional inmate increases the financial burden to agencies that area already in dire straits moneywise.

Yet it is apparent that the answer is to keep the poachers and other outlaws out of the woods and off of our waters.

How shall we do this? The answer is simple, just make it too darn expensive to violate the fish and game laws! Other states have done this and have glowing reports of the success of the plan.

The idea is to make violators who illegally destroy fish or game liable for civil penalties for the value of such species in addition to the criminal penalties now stipulated by existing laws. North Dakota was the first state to employ this method and was followed by Texas, Pennsylvania and recently, Ohio.

Currently, fines assessed in wildlife cases revert to the parish where the offense occurred. This would not be changed. Under the new plan a value is put on each species of wildlife and the violator must pay that amount to the state regardless of the penalties imposed by the criminal courts.

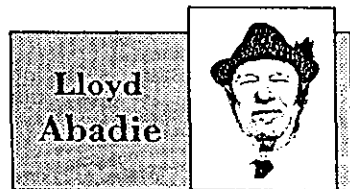
Some states bill the culprit for the amount he owes the state and if the amount isn't paid their Attorney General takes steps that are necessary. The monies go to the fish and game department. In Louisiana this would be the Department of the Wildlife and Fisheries, an agency which receives no tax money whatsoever.

South Dakota's intent was to "raise the cost of poaching to where the outlaw just plain can't afford it." Their legislature took the idea seriously — it placed a tag of \$5,000 on elk and buffalo and \$1,000 on deer.

Texas uses a range of values to allow flexibility to the judiciary depending upon the grievousness of the situation but its values are still imposing. Alligators, Eastern Wild Turkey and buck deer were assigned a "recovery value" of \$251 - \$800, doe deer \$78 - \$250, bobcat \$51 - \$75, speckle-belly geese \$21 - \$50 and small game \$11 - \$20 each.

We were unable to obtain a schedule from Ohio but learned that it values deer at \$400.

Can you think of anything more



logical, making the person who steals our wildlife (it is stealing, it's being stolen from you) pay for it?

Consider what it costs you to replace the fish and game which are being slaughtered by outlaws. Who do you think pays for this replacement? Look into a mirror.

Texas prices redfish at \$5 per pound. Here a sports fisherman is allowed only two reds over 30" long. Do you think he would try to sneak an extra big redfish if it might cost him \$5 a pound? I think not.

Or what about the netters who violate the law? Can they stand a \$5 per pound penalty in addition to the criminal penalties?

This seems like an excellent plan to get the poachers out of the woods and off of our waters.

Such a plan is now under consideration for Louisiana.

What do you think?

3/12/87

Dear Bart,

*This looks like the solution to so many problems - what do you think?*

*I urge the Commission to consider this step and to support a bill to this effect in the legislature.*

*I can assure you of much publicity for such measures. The publishers with whom I spoke are all in favor of such a plan.*

*Civil penalties would go to DWF. Criminal penalties would stay in the pouches now proscribed by law.*

*Please give this deliberate consideration.*  
*Regards,*  
*Lloyd*

LLOYD F. ABADIE

P. O. Box 1218, Crowley, La. 70526 - (318) 783-8074

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Lloyd  
Abadie



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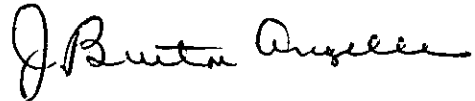
*Lloyd*

Notice of Intent

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to change the existing regulations governing issuance of permits for the purpose of fishing pompano in Louisiana coastal waters. Specifically, the maximum length of net permissible will be changed from 1200 to 2400 feet. Authority for this change is included in RS56:406.

Interested parties may submit written comments or comment on this proposed change until 4:30 p.m., June 5, 1987 in person or writing to: Mr. J. Burton Angelle, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Post Office Box 15570, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70895.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Burton Angelle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

J. Burton Angelle  
Secretary



J. BURTON ANGELLE, SR.  
SECRETARY  
(504) 925-3617

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
POST OFFICE BOX 15570  
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70895

EDWIN W. EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR

March 31, 1987

Tom Dawley  
Supervisory Fishery Reporting Specialist  
NMFS, Suite 400-H  
World Trade Center  
2 Canal St.  
New Orleans, LA 70130

Dear Mr. Dawley,

As you know, the 1987 Louisiana Legislative Session is fast approaching. As usual, the Department is asking several of its friends throughout the fisheries industry for input into decision-making regarding the State's renewable resources.

Several options are being considered by the Department to upgrade our management of the red drum fishery. One of these options depends upon how much lag time we could expect concerning the commercial red drum landings in Louisiana.

Could you and your staff, as an example, update the Department two weeks after the data were collected (December totals available mid-January)?

Would you please furnish me with your best estimate of the anticipated lag time at your earliest opportunity?

Thanks so much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

  
William S. "Corky" Perret  
Assistant Secretary

WSP:GA:bw

cc: J. Burton Angelle ✓  
Claude Boudreaux  
Gerald Adkins

Regular Session, 1987

SENATE BILL NO.

AN ACT

To amend and re-enact R.S. 56:8(112) relative to eel pots; to define legal means of taking eel; to define the term "eel pot".

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:8(112) is hereby amended and re-enacted to read as follows:

S8. Definitions

For purposes of this Chapter, the following words and phrases have the meaning ascribed to them in this Section, unless the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

\* \* \*

(103) "Underutilized species" means species of edible fish that have commercial development potential which has not been fully realized. Historically, this has included shark, clams, alligators, mullet, squid, gafftopsail catfish, hardhead catfish, spot, pinfish, silver eel, spanish mackerel, croaker, and black drum.

\* \* \*

(112) "Eel pot" means any device not larger than thirty-six inches rectangular to exceed forty-eight inches in length and with an outside mesh size not smaller than one inch by one-half inch, one half inch, constructed with throats or flues not larger than three inches in diameter at their narrowest point and not larger than five inches in

diameter at their widest point, and which is used solely for the purpose of taking eel. No lead or wing shall be connected to or used in conjunction with any eel pot. Any fish other than eel taken in this gear must be immediately returned unharmed to the water.

**S320. Methods of taking freshwater or saltwater fish**

**\* \* \***

B. (1) Commercial fin fish may be taken with any pole, line, the device known as a yo-yo, handline, with any trotline wherein hooks are not less than twenty-four inches apart, with approved slat traps, cans and minnow traps, with legal seines and nets, with bows and arrows, or by any skin diver in salt water or fresh water, when submerged in the water and using standard spearing equipment, and by no other means except as provided in Subsection C of this Section. However, eel may be taken for commercial purposes using eel pots and other legal gear as provided herein.

**\* \* \***

**S332.1. Eel; methods of taking; licensing; marking; violation**

A. (1) Eel may be taken for commercial purposes using eel pots, as that term is defined in R.S. 56:8(112), or by other legal means.

(2) For the taking of eel for commercial purposes, a resident shall obtain and have in possession while eel fishing a resident commercial eel fishing license at a cost of fifty-five dollars. The nonresident commercial eel fishing license shall be purchased by a nonresident at a cost of one hundred five dollars.

(3) Possession of a valid commercial eel fishing license, in addition to other applicable commercial licenses as provided by R.S. 56:337, authorizes the holder thereof to sell any eel taken.

B. Eel may be taken for recreational purposes using any legal recreational gear as set forth in R.S. 56:320(A). Licenses shall be as required by R.S. 56:333 and 334 for residents and nonresidents respectively.

C.(1) Each eel pot shall be attached by a nonfloating line to a visible float of at least six inches in diameter or one-half gallon volume size and the eel fishermen's license number shall be printed on

the float in indelible ink.

(2) Eel pots shall be fished only in areas of the state which are south of the saltwater line as delineated by R.S. 56:322(A) and in saltwater lakes north of said saltwater line, excluding Lake Maurepas. No eel pot shall be set in navigable channels or entrances to streams.

D. Violation of any provision of this Section constitutes a class two violation.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

## RATIONALE

This legislation was developed during 1986 to provide for the growth of an eel fishery in coastal Louisiana. Certain changes are necessary to provide for additional growth of this fishery, to allow fishermen a greater degree of freedom in gear construction, and a larger catch composed of various sized individuals. This fishery does not impact other fisheries in any given area.

TO: OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE COUNSEL OF THE GOVERNOR

FROM: Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
(Department/Agency)

DATE: 2/26/87

1. PROPOSED LEGISLATION: (briefly summarize; attach copy of bill and digest)

Change definition of eel pot, change mesh size and eliminate by-catch of eel fishermen.

2. AFFECTED STATUTES, CODES, ETC. R.S. 56:8 (112)

3. WHY CAN THIS PROBLEM NOT BE DEALT WITH ADMINISTRATIVELY OR BY REGULATION?

Should be statutorily adopted to provide legal definition.

4. WHAT IS THE FISCAL IMPACT OF THIS PROPOSAL?

None

5. HAS THIS LEGISLATION BEEN PROPOSED BEFORE? No.  
IF SO, WHAT ACTION WAS TAKEN?

6. WHO DRAFTED THIS LEGISLATION? (name and phone number)

Gerald Adkins 342-9252

7. WHAT PERSON OR PERSONS HAVE ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE NEED FOR THE LEGISLATION AND WILL BE AVAILABLE TO TESTIFY BEFORE COMMITTEES? (indicate name, title and phone number)

Same

8. WHAT KNOWN OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSAL EXISTS OR IS LIKELY TO OCCUR?

None.

I have reviewed the proposal and believe the legislation should be an Administration Bill.

SECRETARY (OR PERSON  
DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY  
TO REVIEW LEGISLATIVE  
PROPOSALS)